

Notice of Allowability

Application No.

09/808,657

Examiner

Rashmi K. Sharma

Applicant(s)

FINGER ET AL.

Art Unit

-3651

-- **The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address--**

All claims being allowable, PROSECUTION ON THE MERITS IS (OR REMAINS) CLOSED in this application. If not included herewith (or previously mailed), a Notice of Allowance (PTOL-85) or other appropriate communication will be mailed in due course. **THIS NOTICE OF ALLOWABILITY IS NOT A GRANT OF PATENT RIGHTS.** This application is subject to withdrawal from issue at the initiative of the Office or upon petition by the applicant. See 37 CFR 1.313 and MPEP 1308.

1. ☒ This communication is responsive to 7/29/04.
2. ☒ The allowed claim(s) is/are 2-8,12-57 and 71-89.
3. ☒ The drawings filed on 3/15/2001 are accepted by the Examiner.
4. ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
 - a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some* c) ☐ None of the:
 1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
 3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this national stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).
 - * Certified copies not received: _____.

Applicant has THREE MONTHS FROM THE "MAILING DATE" of this communication to file a reply complying with the requirements noted below. Failure to timely comply will result in ABANDONMENT of this application.
THIS THREE-MONTH PERIOD IS NOT EXTENDABLE

5. ☐ A SUBSTITUTE OATH OR DECLARATION must be submitted. Note the attached EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT or NOTICE OF INFORMAL PATENT APPLICATION (PTO-152) which gives reason(s) why the oath or declaration is deficient.
 6. ☐ CORRECTED DRAWINGS (as "replacement sheets") must be submitted.
 - (a) ☐ including changes required by the Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) attached
 - 1) ☐ hereto or 2) ☐ to Paper No./Mail Date _____.
 - (b) ☐ including changes required by the attached Examiner's Amendment / Comment or in the Office action of Paper No./Mail Date _____.
- Identifying indicia such as the application number (see 37 CFR 1.84(c)) should be written on the drawings in the front (not the back) of each sheet. Replacement sheet(s) should be labeled as such in the header according to 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- ☐ DEPOSIT OF and/or INFORMATION about the deposit of BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL must be submitted. Note the attached Examiner's comment regarding REQUIREMENT FOR THE DEPOSIT OF BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL.

Attachment(s)

- ☐ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
- ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
- ☒ Information Disclosure Statements (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08), Paper No./Mail Date 7/01
- ☐ Examiner's Comment Regarding Requirement for Deposit of Biological Material
5. ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)
6. ☒ Interview Summary (PTO-413), Paper No./Mail Date 10/04
7. ☒ Examiner's Amendment/Comment
8. ☒ Examiner's Statement of Reasons for Allowance
9. ☐ Other _____

EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT

Authorization for this examiner's amendment was given in a telephone interview with Clement Berard on July 29, 2004. An examiner's amendment to the record appears below. Should the changes and/or additions be unacceptable to applicant, an amendment may be filed as provided by 37 CFR 1.312. To ensure consideration of such an amendment, it MUST be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee.

The application has been amended as follows:

39. (Amended) A blade assembly comprising:

a scraper blade having a blade body, a blade tip on one end of said body and a pair of skirts extending from an end of said body opposite the blade tip, wherein said pair of skirts are flexible and define a blade cavity and a key-bar groove therein; and

a blade holder including a rod disposed in said blade cavity and an elongated key-bar extending radially from said rod with said key-bar disposed in said key-bar groove, said pair of skirts releasably engaging the rod of said blade holder, and

wherein said pair of skirts are sized to engage the rod of said blade holder in a snap-on snap-off manner.

49. (Amended) A scraper blade comprising an elongate blade body having a blade tip along one elongate end of said body and having a pair of skirts along and extending from an elongate end of said body opposite the blade tip, wherein said pair of skirts are flexible and define a groove adapted for receiving and engaging a blade holder, and wherein said pair of skirts are sized to engage the blade holder in a snap-on snap-off manner.

71. (Amended) A belt scraper comprising:

a scraper blade having a blade body, a blade tip on one end of said body and a pair of skirts extending from an end of said body opposite the blade tip, wherein said pair of skirts are flexible and define a blade cavity and a key-bar groove therein; and

~~a blade holder including a rod disposed in said blade cavity and an elongated key-bar extending radially from said rod with said key-bar~~

disposed in said key-bar groove, said pair of skirts releasably engaging the rod of said blade holder, and

wherein said pair of skirts are sized to engage the rod of said blade holder in a snap-on snap-off manner.

Reasons For Allowance

Claims 2-8, 12-57 and 71-89 have been allowed.

The following is an examiner's statement of reasons for allowance:

Independent claims 39, 49, 71 and 81 all recite the structural limitation of a blade assembly arrangement and a belt scraper arrangement comprising a pair of skirts that are sized to engage the blade holder or rod in a snap-on snap-off manner, in combination with the rest of the recited structure, clearly defines over the prior art.

Reasons for allowance of independent claims 2, 3, 12, 18, 22, 23, 29 and 34 have been presented in the previous Office Action dated 7/1/2004.

Any comments considered necessary by applicant must be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee and, to avoid processing delays, should preferably accompany the issue fee. Such submissions should be clearly labeled "Comments on Statement of Reasons for Allowance."


Conclusion

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Rashmi K. Sharma whose telephone number is 703-306-5952. The examiner can normally be reached on Monday-Friday.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Eileen Lillis can be reached on 703-308-3248. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 703-872-9306.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).

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